simultaneous use of both runways, improved ATC procedures, restriction on general aviation aircraft movement, ATC automation system etc.

Expansion of Shimla airport

†4297. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of CIVILAVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have any scheme for the expansion of the Shimla airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Government have received any proposal from the State Government of Himachal Pradesh to construct a new airport in Sundemagar; and

(d) if so, the action being taken thereupon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Developmental works to the possible extent are being carried out at Shimla airport, Himachal Pradesh which includes, enhancement of space by carrying out modifications in the existing Terminal Building and construction of a new Fire Station of category IV & Emergency Medical Centre etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Further initiation in the matter is subject to submission of Techno-Economic Feasibility Report (TEFR) by the State Government for Construction of a Greenfield airport along with NOC from Ministry of Defence and environmental clearance and meteorological data of the site.

Shortage of pilots

†4298. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of pilots to compete the competitive challenges successfully at National and International level keeping in view the rapid expansion of Civil Aviation service;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.